

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2011

Instructions

1. Please complete the entire form. **All fields are required.**
2. Please do not **bold**, underline, or *italicize* responses.
3. Request forms must be submitted as a Word document.
4. All completed request forms and any supplemental materials must be submitted via email to:
Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov
5. Please do not send more than one request per email.
6. All completed request forms must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 26, 2010.**
7. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your request within 48 hours of submission, please contact Stephanie Cappa in Congressman Blumenauer's Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-4811.

PLEASE NOTE: All appropriations requests submitted to Congressman Blumenauer's office will be made public on his website, as required by the House Committee on Appropriations.

Project Details

1. Project title:

Oregon Seafloor Mapping for Tsunami Hazards and Ecosystem Benefit

2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds):

Oregon Department of State Lands
775 Summer St NE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301

3. Contact information

- a. **Project's primary contact:** Louise Solliday, Director
- b. **Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** 503-986-5224
- c. **Email Address:** louise.c.solliday@state.or.us
- d. **Project location:** Oregon Coast (Clatsop, Tillamook, Lincoln, Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry Counties)

4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.

The mission of the Department of State Lands (DSL) is to ensure a legacy for Oregonians and their public schools through sound stewardship of lands, wetlands, waterways, unclaimed property, estates and the Common School Fund. The Department of State Lands manages approximately 800,000 acres of off-shore land, estuarine tidelands, and submerged and submersible lands of the state's extensive navigable waterway system.

5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?

Department of State Lands is a public entity.

6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?

CJS/DOC/NOAA/National Ocean Service

7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).

Seafloor Mapping of the Oregon Territorial Sea

Presently, we have detailed bottom mapping of only about 40% of the area of the Oregon Territorial Sea, which extends 3 nautical miles from the coast and comprises approximately 950 square nautical miles. Knowledge of the Oregon nearshore is important for fisheries, for coastal erosion, for ecosystem science, and particularly for modeling tsunami waves in this highly tsunami vulnerable region. Probabilities for subduction earthquakes (Magnitude 8-9) in Oregon have dramatically increased with release of new scientific studies in 2009. A detailed bathymetric map would enable more effective tsunami inundation modeling for all vulnerable coastal communities, where only about half are covered today. State of the art tsunami modeling will be conducted in the same timeframe as this project, providing a good match to improve the level of safety for coastal communities. The data would also directly support wave energy facility siting, telecommunications cable laying, marine habitat identification, marine reserves delineation, marine navigation, and shoreline erosion modeling to name a few.

The project has been endorsed by the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health (WCGA) Oregon Legislative Coastal Caucus, the Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council, the Oregon State Marine Board, and by coastal and marine scientists in a consensus statement. Collaborative work was begun in 2009 using \$5M via the NOAA Office of Coast Survey, and \$1.3M of Oregon State funds in a highly effective partnership that also included Oregon State University, two commercial partners, and local vessels to accomplish the work completed to date. This allowed mapping of ~ 40% of the Oregon Territorial Sea in 2009.

This request would allow completion of vital mapping for the Oregon Territorial Sea begun in 2009, providing economic, safety of life, and ecologic benefits for decades to come.

8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

This project will directly improve safety of life in Oregon coastal communities, which are currently threatened by tsunami and earthquakes from the Cascadia Subduction Zone. Tsunami inundation modeling will provide much improved understanding of the areas that will be directly affected by future tsunami. The project will save or create ~ 20 jobs, and support underutilized fishing vessels impacted by the economic downturn and the decline of fisheries in general.

9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?

The project has not received a direct appropriation, but federal agencies have provided their own program funds towards accomplishing the same goal.

9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

- NOAA provided approximately \$5 million from its FY2009 budget to support mapping in Oregon. Specifically, the NOAA Office of Coast Survey (OCS) contracted with two private firms to

decrease the agency's backlog of safety of navigation surveys in Oregon. OCS staff consulted with the State of Oregon and directed efforts to the state's priority survey areas.

- Additionally, the National Science Foundation's Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI) supported mapping (funds for ship time) within the Oregon Territorial Sea in FY2009 at an area where they plan to place equipment on the seafloor.

- The United States Geological Survey (USGS) supplied a mapping vessel and hydrographers to map a small area of seafloor off Depoe Bay, Oregon in FY 2008.

Funding Details

10. Amount requested for this project: \$4.6 million

11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

Vessel operational costs: \$1.6 M

Equipment leases and purchases: \$1.1M

Salaries: \$0.6 M

Data processing: \$0.4M

Miscellaneous (computer, materials and supplies, data dissemination): \$0.5M

Facilities and Administration costs: \$0.4M

12. What is the total cost of the project?

\$4.6 million

13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011?)?

Yes, the project is scalable to an extent. If partial funds are received, priorities can be realigned to make the best use of partial support. Certain sections of the ocean floor would be mapped before others.

14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)

Past support has included:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has been supporting seafloor mapping for a number of years, mapping very small areas every few years. The ODFW routinely conducts fish and habitat inventories using a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) collecting valuable "ground-truth" data about seabed character and the living marine resources that occur over these habitats. We are working with ODFW to direct sampling and ground-truthing efforts in coordination with the hydrographic survey project. Funding for ROV surveys has historically come from Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP), Program Enhancement Grants. The 2009 Oregon Legislature directed 1.3M additional funding for a variety of related tasks including ROV work by ODFW.

15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.

Examples include:

Oregon Governor Kulongoski

Oregon Coastal Caucus (state legislators)

Misc. Oregon scientists (Consensus Statement)
Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC)
West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health

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Washington, D.C. Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Stephanie Cappa, 202-225-4811, Stephanie.Cappa@mail.house.gov

Oregon Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, 503-231-2300, Sarah.Masterson@mail.house.gov